



COGNITION

CitySprint on Auction Block— ILWU Drive in Home Stretch

Recently word reached CitySprint employees that their long-founding multi-national messenger firm is up for sale. Rumors abound about the company's fate. The more credible stories claim that only about three or four profitable branches are for sale while the rest of the operations—all of them money losers—will close. Fortunately the Bay Area branch is making money and will probably attract a buyer. Word from an SF CitySprint messenger is that there are three potential buyer groups looking at the Bay Area branch.

A messenger company's assets include radios, phones and other office supplies, but as we all know the major assets of any messenger company are the messengers themselves. After all, why do you think they're called "messenger" companies?

What this means is that it isn't just CitySprint that's on the auction block, it's CitySprint messengers who are also on the auction block.

CitySprint in 2001 sounds a lot like South Carolina in 1801, doesn't it?

Well not quite. Unlike South Carolina back then, this time there's a chance to get off the auction block.

The International Longshore & Warehouse Union

continued on back →



photo by Marcy Rein

Fred Pecker—San Francisco Labor Council's "Organizer of the Year"—on the picket line at UltraEx.

Our FRIEND FRED FATED TO BE FETED AT FUN FILLED FEAST!

Feta Featured Food at Feeding?
Fred Pecker, known to Messengers throughout our community, will be honored by the SF Labor Council as Organizer of the Year in re-
COGNITION of his tireless efforts in gaining rights, raises & respect for Messengers & other working folks in Northern California.
Brother Pecker, SF's largest
continued on back →

SFBMA meeting!!
July 12 @ Local 34 @ 7 p.m. / by Giants Stadium

Team Satan Alley Cat June 23
RESULTS ON BACK

CitySprint

continued from front

(ILWU) has been working to represent messengers throughout the industry since 1998. As a result ILWU messengers have won contracts at two companies, making gains in income, benefits and working conditions. Thanks in large part to the ILWU, the messenger movement has triggered gains throughout the industry. Now messengers at CitySprint are in a position to push these standards even higher, by unionizing another of the city's major companies.

CitySprint drivers, bikers and walkers have a chance to negotiate their own future with just a stroke of their pens. If a simple majority of CitySprint messengers sign ILWU authorization cards by July 5, then CitySprint management will have to NEGOTIATE with "their" messengers. However if a majority don't sign up with the ILWU, then the new buyers will have the right to DICTATE to their messengers. That right of dictatorship can include mass firings if the new bosses so choose.

Messengers at the Bay Area CitySprint branch have a chance not only to negotiate their own futures, but also to positively influence the labor movement throughout the messenger industry. CitySprint Sisters and Brothers stand up for yourselves and for all of us in the industry! Sign your card and get your co-workers to do the same—by July 5. It's the best way to get what we've deserved for so long.

—Howard Williams,
ILWU Steward at Speedway Delivery

DISCOUNTS for SFBMA Members available at the following places:

Patronize these friendly establishments! And look for *Cognition* at these hot spots!

The following bike shops give 10% discount on parts to SFBMA members.

- ◆ Foxy Flyer Bike Shop, 3330 Steiner, phone # 674-1910
 - ◆ Big Swingin' Cycles, 1122 Taraval, phone # 661-2462 (also 10% discount on labor)
 - ◆ Road Rage Bike Rental and Repair, 1063 Folsom, phone # 255-1351 (also 15% discount on labor)
 - ◆ The Sports Basement, 1301 6th St., phone # 437-1415
- And Cassidy's Bar, 1145 Folsom, phone # 241-9990—\$2 beer specials M-F, 6-8pm for working messengers 21 & over

Both Freewheels & CycleSports in Oakland give SFBMA discounts

Fred HONORED (continued from front)

vegetarian, has done more for us than any other non-Messenger (except for Harvey Woo) and so it's no surprise that he's earned such props. The Organizer of the Year award will be presented at a dinner honoring Fred on Tuesday June 26 6 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel 480 Sutter.

It is a tribute to Fred's efforts and dedication that although he is a Business Agent at ILWU Local 6 (which means organizing is not his only duty), he has worked so hard to organize and help people that he has received an award that usually goes to professional Organizers.

Rhina Ratcliff and Jill Duke, ILWU Local 6 Business Agents who have helped Fred for many years, are honored guests.

Music by Hiram Bell & Buddy Trujillo.



GOOD OL' DAYS ALLEY CAT
SAT. - JULY 7
3 P.M. @ The WALL!

SUNDAY - JULY 22 - The Mtn. Lion
HIGH NOON - 20th & VERMONT!

TEAM S. Alley CAT Results

- 1st - Mike (Godspeed)
- 2nd - Tim (Cupid)
- 3rd - Brandon (GOD-SPEED)

- 1st ♀ - SARAH
- 2nd ♀ - Becky
- 1st FIXIE - Christian M.

DFL - Eric (King)

Congratulations to Godspeed for victory over Satan!